

HERE IS THE ENEMY FOR THE NATION TO FIGHT



It is not very interesting or exciting to talk about flies.

They are not as romantic as venomous serpents. They are not as huge and impressive as wild elephants or roaring lions.

They are not as mysterious and awe-inspiring as the plague or the "Black Death."

But the fly is more poisonous to-day than all the snakes of the world combined, infinitely more dangerous than all the ferocious animals.

And here in our civilization and so-called perfect science the fly destroys life on a scale that may fairly be compared with the ravages of the plague in days when the population was smaller, ignorance and indifference greater.

The fly kills tens of thousands of children every year.

The fly causes more blindness in children than all other causes combined.

The fly spreads every known disease to children and to adults, for it frequents every disease-breeding spot and hunts purposely for filth.

Early in the season KILL FLIES.

In the middle of the Summer KILL FLIES.

And in the Autumn and in the Winter, if you can find them, still KILL FLIES.

Treat the fly as our ancestors of the old days treated the red Indians and the wolves.

First shut them out of your house, make sure that they won't get in, then kill them off as rapidly as possible and pray for the day when you will no longer have to protect your house against them.

Screen your windows.

Screen your doors.

New fly screens made of wire netting that will not rust are more important than a new coat of paint or a new automobile, for fly screens mean protection for children.

Protect your house from the flies, and as absolutely as possible, or nearly so, protect your food supplies and protect your babies' faces separately.

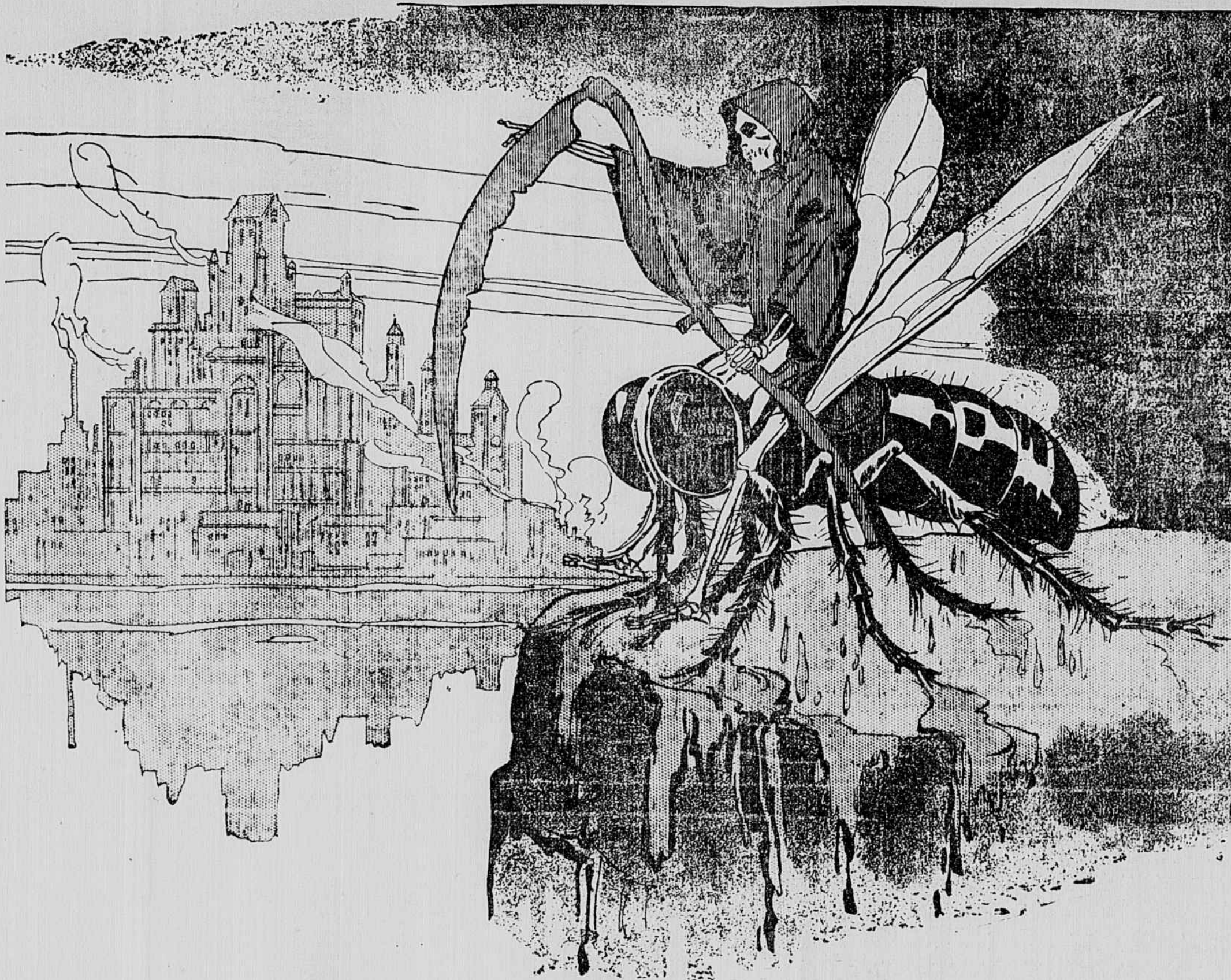
As the child lies asleep keep mosquito netting over it.

Keep your sugar bowl, butter dish and food supplies covered.

It is only by earnest, intelligent co-operation that the fly can finally be abolished. The citizens should combine, the national, State, city

Flies Will Kill This Year More Americans Than Will Ever Be Lost in a Battle. We Talk About the Japanese Invasion and Prepare for It, Wisely. Why Do We Tolerate and Ignore the Annual Invasion of an Enemy More Deadly and Dangerous Than All the Yellow Men of Asia?

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FACTS ABOUT THE FLY

Scientists have been studying the housefly several years, and all of them unite in saying that this insect is more deadly and more dangerous to human life than the tiger or the cobra. It is the most dangerous insect on earth.

In every large city the fly causes thousand of deaths from typhoid fever.

It causes more than 7,000 deaths annually in New York City from other intestinal diseases.

Every autumn there is a rise in the death rate from typhoid.

This rise is traced by the scientists directly to the fly.

An expert recently examined a fly found in a slum street. It was carrying on its legs and in its mouth more than 100,000 bacteria.

It had been walking over filth on the water front. The expert caught it on the edge of a glass of milk.

Don't forget that if you see flies their breeding place is nearby filth. It may be behind the door, under the table, or in the cuspidor.

If there is no dirt or filth there will be no flies.

If there is a nuisance in the neighborhood write at once to the Health Department.

Do not allow decaying material of any sort to accumulate on or near your premises. All refuse should be removed at once or covered with lime or kerosene.

Keep all receptacles for garbage carefully covered and the cans cleaned or sprinkled with oil or lime.

See that your sewerage system is in good order. Pour kerosene into the drains.

Cover food after a meal. Burn or bury all table refuse. Screen all food exposed for sale. Buy no food that has been exposed to flies.

and village governments should combine with them, to wipe out the unseen enemies of man, the flies that carry all the diseases, or very nearly all, and the mosquito that alone infects men with malaria and yellow fever.

THE THING CAN BE DONE, for it has been done by governments in Cuba, in Panama and in New Orleans.

The trouble is that the country will not take the matter seriously.

We look with pity and contempt upon the ignorant Egyptian woman who allows the flies to gather in black clusters on the poisoned eyes of her sleeping child and who tells us that it is wrong to take their lives.

And we laugh at the ignorant Hindoos with their vile monkeys of Benares, and

their ridiculous religion that protects even the vermin on their bodies.

But our indifference and carelessness are as stupid and as harmful as their religion and without religious excuse.

Every manure pile should be covered, on the farms and everywhere else. The intelligent farmer knows that this increases the value of the fertilizer more than

thirty per cent. It decreases the breeding of flies to a greater degree. The manure pile, the heap of filth, such are the breeding places of the fly.

No accumulation of filth in stables or elsewhere in a big city should be permitted to stand more than six days. It takes the common fly nine days to hatch. Compel by law the removal of manure from stables every six days

—and you remove the unhatched fly from the city.

This should be worked out by government through pressure of public opinion. When we have some slight threat of smallpox or of Asiatic cholera, we are all excited, health boards become active and quarantines are established, although there is very little danger now in such diseases.

Yet, with the buzzing flies everywhere carrying disease germs on their spongy feet to the faces of the children, depositing these disease germs on food of all kinds, to be eaten later, and although these flies cause annually tens of thousands of deaths that are unnecessary, **WE REMAIN CALLOUS AND INDIFFERENT.**

If the foot and mouth disease breaks out among cattle, the county and State are quarantined. Hog cholera, sheep diseases and other cases are watched and suppressed with all the energy of the Government.

And in the meanwhile we have in every city the billions of disease-carrying flies hurrying from the accumulated filth to the table, and there is no effort for a change.

And we have the swamps breeding their endless billions of mosquitoes to keep alive malaria in the blood of human beings, and there is no real war against that plague. It is useless except for the protection of the individual family to suppress the fly nuisance in one place or drain the swamp or cover the cesspool in another.

Darwin told us that one single pair of flies in forty-eight hours—the quick-breeding African fly—will lay enough eggs and breed enough maggots to devour a lion, leaving nothing but the white bones.

A few flies surviving through the Winter start the plague afresh the following year.

And one careless citizen leaving a breeding ground for mosquitoes supplies enough to infest the whole country.

Fortunately, for two or three years the people have been alive to the fact that their enemies are the tiny fly and mosquito and the invisible disease germs—enemies more deadly and dangerous than ever were the great monsters of prehistoric times or the wolves and lions of our day.

Discussion has begun, newspapers have taken it up and offered prizes. A few public officials have at least TRIED to do something. But only a beginning has been made.

The country must realize the danger and the duty. Children must be taught that the killing of flies is a good and necessary act, painful as it is to take life.

Do what you can to arouse public feeling for the sake of the public safety.

And in the meanwhile **DO WHAT YOU CAN INDIVIDUALLY.**

Kill the flies!